

IN APPRECIATION OF MS. LESLIE
DeMERSEMAN

HON. MARY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in admiration of the service Leslie DeMersseman has given as the 1999 president of the California School Board Association.

Prior to serving at the state level, Leslie DeMersseman exhibited her leadership and community concern as a board member of the Palm Springs school board for 12 years, presiding over the board for five of those years. In addition to her work in Palm Springs, DeMersseman has served as a director of the Riverside County School Boards Association since 1987.

The California School Board Association is the primary statewide organization with the board point of view to set the agenda for California's school-children. Under Leslie DeMersseman's leadership this organization has been able to work toward improving some of the many problems California's public schools are experiencing.

Leslie DeMersseman has risen to the challenge of actively working to better education in the state of California, and as a parent I deeply thank her for her efforts. As we seek to find ways to solve the problems in our public education system, we need more people like Leslie DeMersseman working for our children. It is people like her, working at the state and local level, who inspire us and validate our efforts to give more control to the states and local education authorities.

It is with great appreciation and respect that I ask my colleagues to join me to recognize Leslie DeMersseman for the continuous efforts on behalf of children and education throughout Palm Springs, Riverside County and the state of California.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF THE
PRIVATE BILL FOR THE BENEFIT
OF ADELA BAILOR AND
DARRYL BAILOR

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation that would provide for private relief for the benefit of Adela Bailor and Darryl Bailor. As you know, private relief is available in only rare instances. I believe that the circumstances surrounding the Bailors' case qualifies under the rules for private legislation.

The facts surrounding this case are clear and undisputed. Adela Bailor, while working for Prison Fellowship Ministries in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, was raped on May 9, 1991, by a federal prisoner who had escaped from the Salvation Army Freedom Center, a halfway house in Chicago, Illinois.

What makes the Bailors' case special is that they were caught in a legal catch-22. The Bail-

ors' filed suit against the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the Salvation Army, which ran the halfway house to which Mr. Holly was assigned.

One of the requirements for all inmates at a halfway house is that they remain drug free and take a periodic drug test. Mr. Holly had a history of violence and drug abuse including convictions for possession of heroin. On May 6, 1991, Mr. Holly was called into the Salvation Army office and was told that his drug test was positive for cocaine use. The Salvation Army had the option of informing Mr. Holly of the failed drug test with a U.S. Marshal present, but chose not to. When advised of his drug test failure, Mr. Holly simply announced that he was "out of here" and walked through the unlocked door.

In the lawsuit, the Bailors' lost on a legal technicality. The 7th Circuit Court of Appeals recognized this technicality. The technicality was that, under law, apparently, no one had true custody of William Holly. The Federal Bureau of Prisons had legal custody of William Holly, but not physical custody. The Salvation Army had physical custody of William Holly, but not legal custody. Recognizing that this was legally untenable, the 7th Circuit recommended that Ms. Bailor apply to Congress for private relief.

I ask that my colleagues join in this effort to eliminate this gross injustice for Adela Bailor and Darryl Bailor. If we believe in victims' rights, then we must hold those who are responsible for the incarceration of violent criminals accountable for such conduct. Adela Bailor is an honorably-discharged Marine Corps veteran. At the time of the attack, she was helping to make this country a better place. We cannot, and should not, turn our back on her because of some legal loophole.

The 7th Circuit has reviewed this case fully and has made its recommendation. Although Congress is not bound by such recommendation, Congress should give great deference to the legal analysis by the 7th Circuit, which has determined that Adela Bailor and Darryl Bailor fall into an unusual legal situation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of my colleagues to support this legislation so that we may rectify a great wrong.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. LOU
TRONZO UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, it's a pleasure for me to recognize an outstanding individual who will soon be retiring from the University of Pittsburgh, Mr. Lou Tronzo.

Lou has represented the University as a public affairs executive for the last thirty years, working at the local, state, and federal levels. In Western Pennsylvania and in the higher-education community, he's been an institution in the pursuit of programs to help universities and students.

Lou began his career in the public sector working for the Urban Redevelopment Authority of the City of Pittsburgh and for ACTION-

Housing Inc., where he focused on land disposition, housing development, and economic research.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a B.A. and an M.A., he's been actively involved with the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges and the American Association of Universities. He's also served on the Boards of institutions such as the Community College of Allegheny County and Forbes Health System. He's the Founder and Co-Chair of the Institute of Politics at the University of Pittsburgh.

But this is a case where the details do not tell the whole story. Lou Tronzo has the respect of all of us who have worked with him over the years for his dedication, loyalty, common sense, and devotion to helping people. The most recent project I've been working on with Lou is one that would bring economic progress and jobs to Western Pennsylvania—as always Lou's focus is on helping people and giving them a chance to improve their lives.

It's impossible to put any kind of number with the many, many students, educators, communities, institutions, and organizations that Lou has helped over the years. But it is possible to try on behalf of all of us who have benefited from knowing him to say: "Thank you, Lou, we recognize your outstanding contributions and hope you enjoy the time you will now have to spend with your family, especially your grandchildren."

TRIBUTE TO ROB SANDERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Rob Sanders, Moffat County High School Assistant Principal and Activities Director, for being honored by the Milken Family Foundation as a National Educator.

The Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award provides recognition and unrestricted financial awards to exceptional elementary and secondary school teachers, principals and other education professionals who are furthering excellence in education. This award is only given to four educators a year (in Colorado).

Mr. Sanders is an asset to Moffat County High School, as well as the entire country. Our education system thrives due to the efforts of individuals like Mr. Sanders. His dedication and hard work have proven to be a success in the third district of Colorado and I greatly appreciate his continued commitment to our youth.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER ROBB

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Roger Robb,